



U.S. Army Forces Command

FRONTLINE

March 27, 2015 | Volume V, Issue 12



Senior Leaders Army Chief of Staff praises Soldiers



"I continue to be inspired by the unparalleled experience and professionalism of the men and women of the United States Army. They demonstrate unwavering dedication and commitment to the mission, to the Army, and to the Nation."

– Gen. Raymond T. Odierno
Chief of Staff of the Army
Senate Armed Services Committee hearing
March 18, 2015, Washington

On Point Use it or lose it; max leave changes coming

Effective Sept. 30, 2015, the National Defense Authorization Act temporary authority allowing Soldiers to carry over 75 days leave from one FY into the next FY will expire. Starting Oct. 1, Soldiers can carry over no more than 60 days leave unless they have Special Leave Accrual protected leave. Defense Finance and Accounting Services (DFAS) is in the process of identifying and emailing a notice to all Soldiers projected to have more than 60 days accrued leave on 30 September 2015. DFAS will continue to include monthly notices on Soldiers' LES's.



Army Posture Statement

The Army Posture Statement informs Congress on the state of the Army and outlines the Army's accomplishments, initiatives, and priorities for Congress to consider when reviewing the President's budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Army trailblazers applaud expanding role of women



Lt. Gen. Karen Dyson, military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army (financial management and comptroller), delivers the keynote address during a U.S. Army Women's Foundation event on Capitol Hill, March 17, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Lisa Ferdinando)

By Lisa Ferdinando,
Army News Service

WASHINGTON (March 19, 2015) – Women today are taking on increased roles in complex and changing battle environments, said senior Army budget officer Lt. Gen. Karen Dyson.

The role of women in Operation Iraqi Freedom, or OIF, and Operation Enduring Freedom, or OEF, demonstrate the shift, said Dyson, the military deputy to the assistant secretary of the Army (financial management and comptroller).

Dyson delivered the keynote speech, March 17, during a U.S. Army Women's Foundation event on Capitol Hill that honored the accomplishments, service and sacrifice of Army women.

"After OIF and OEF, we are learning now about the complexities of the battlespace

that demands new roles for women that have emerged or gained prominence over the last 13-plus years of war," Dyson said.

As part of the directive to open combat jobs to women in the military, the Army is opening to female Soldiers some 33,000 jobs that were previously closed to them, she said.

"This is opening a whole new horizon where we are seeing women step up to test their mettle in very difficult endeavors," she said, noting six women have passed the Ranger Training Assessment Course and are eligible to attend elite Army Ranger School in April.

"Military service continues to open opportunities, and for women who are prepared and determined and are willing to work hard, there will continue to be examples of firsts," she said.

FORSCOM in the news

The 1st Area Medical Laboratory recently returned from a four-month deployment to Liberia, in support of Operation United Assistance.



The 3rd Battalion, 2nd Air Defense Artillery Regiment, was recently awarded the U. S. Army Superior Unit Award for actions in support of Operation Active Fence.



The 1st Battalion, 501st Aviation Regiment, recently became the first unit in the Army to have helicopters linked with unmanned aerial systems.



A ribbon cutting ceremony was held recently celebrating the completion of a new Counter Improvised Explosive Device training facility on Fort Stewart, Ga.



Soldier-chefs made the 1st Infantry Division proud as they were recently awarded 24 medals in the Military Culinary Arts Competitive Training Event at Fort Lee, Va.



Public Affairs units in action



5th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment - Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 3rd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, attack a target during a combined arms live-fire exercise, March 11, 2015, at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, Wash. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. James Bunn)

TOP SHOTS

Here are the best photos from FORSCOM Public Affairs professionals world-wide. For more photos and information, click these photos or visit army.mil/forscom



Right Capt. Kris Chamales, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, maneuvers through the obstacle course at the division's Pre-Ranger Course on Fort Bragg, N.C., March 2, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Eliverto V. Larios)

Left Paratroopers assigned to 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 82nd Airborne Division, and the British 16th Air Assault Brigade, conduct airborne training at the Advanced Airborne School on Fort Bragg, N.C., March 16, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Jason Hull)



Above Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 320th Field Artillery Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), conduct M777A2 Howitzer training with precision guided munitions, March 19, 2015, at Operational Base Fenty in Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Capt. Charlie Emmons)



Above Soldiers assigned to the 1st Battalion, 14th Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Sill, Okla., launch a rocket from a M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System on Fort Carson, Colo., Mar. 6, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Rob Oson)

Left Spc. Stephen Patz, a cavalry scout with A Troop, 6th Squadron, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, watches for "enemy" movement at Fort Stewart, Ga., March 9, 2015. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Joshua Laidacker)



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FORSCOM
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